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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,780	12/09/2003	Shawn Close	200311406-1	4827
22879	7590	07/27/2005	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			FERGUSON, MARISSA L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SM

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/730,780	Applicant(s) CLOSE ET AL.	
	Examiner Marissa L. Ferguson	Art Unit 2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicholson et al. (US Patent 4,796,878) in view of Foote (US Patent 3,627,3890).

Regarding claims 9-11, Nicholson et al. teaches a chassis (12), a motor (M) mounted to the chassis (Figure 3,3a), a rotatable shaft (26a,39a,56c,81) operatively coupled to the motor (Column 1, Lines 53-55), a roller (26) affixed to the shaft (Figure 3a), an idler (40) disposed opposite the roller, the idler and the roller engagable with one another to form a nip therebetween (Figure 3), bearings (28b,30b,97a,97b) supporting the shaft (26a,39a,56c,81), each bearing having a cylindrical inner bearing surface (Figures 2 and 3) and a shaft (26a,39a,56c,81) rotatable against a bearing surface. However, he does not explicitly disclose a bearing mounted to a chassis, a shaft including a bearing including a bushing (spherical journal surface) defining and rotatable against a bearing surface and a body holding the bushing, wherein each bushing is pressed into the body of the bearing.

Foote teaches a bearing assembly (10) mounted to housing (element 30 can function as a chassis) with a shaft (Column 2, Lines 10-15) including a cylindrical

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bushing (14) that is pressed (Column 3, Lines 19-21) into the body of the bearing (Figures 1-5). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention as taught by Nicholson et al. to replace a bearing thereof with a bearing with a pressed bushing as taught by Foote, since Foote teaches that it is advantageous to provide a tight/snug engagement in order to prevent separation during operation.

Regarding claims 12 and 13, Nicholson et al. teaches the claimed invention with the exception of a part mounting a bearing to a chassis and the body of a bearing integral with a mounting part. Foote teaches a mounting part (13) that is integral (attached to bearing as shown in Figure 3) with the body of a bearing (10). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention as taught by Nicholson et al. to include a mounting part as taught by Foote, since Foote teaches that it is advantageous to fixedly secure the bearing assembly within a housing.

3. Claims 14, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yergenson (US Patent 5,655,762) in view of Foote (US Patent 3,627,3890)

Yergenson teaches a chassis (Column 4, Line 34), a print engine (Column 4, Lines 2-3), a feed mechanism (16) operative to move media sheets along a media path through the print engine (Figure 2), a printer controller (Column 6, Lines 49-67) configured to control the operation of the print engine, the feed mechanism including a motor (Column 3, Lines 52-53) mounted to the chassis, a rotatable shaft (shaft 22 and obviously there is a shaft provided for feed roller 30) operatively coupled to the motor, a

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roller (20) affixed to the shaft and an idler (20) disposed opposite the roller (30), the idler and the roller engagable with one another to form a nip therebetween (Figure 2).

However, he does not explicitly disclose bearings mounted to the chassis and supporting the shaft, each bearing having a cylindrical inner bearing surface and a shaft having a spherical journal surface inside and rotatable against each bearing surface.

Foote teaches a bearing (10) mounted to a housing (Abstract, the housing can also function as a chassis) supporting the shaft (Column 2, Lines 11-15) and each bearing (10) having a cylindrical inner bearing surface (Figures 1-5) rotatable against each bearing surface. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention as taught by Nicholson et al. to include a mounting part as taught by Foote, since Foote teaches that it is advantageous to fixedly secure the bearing assembly within a housing.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa L. Ferguson whose telephone number is (571) 272-2163. The examiner can normally be reached on (M-T) 6:30am-4:00pm and every other (F) 7:30am-4:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marissa L Ferguson
Examiner
Art Unit 2854




Daniel J. Colilla
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854